

Revelations as to the New  
Tariff Bill.

SPEECH OF SENATOR SEWARD

ON THE  
VETO MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

REORGANIZATION OF THE NAVY.

A Disputatious Contest in the House on  
Personal Matters.

Nike Walsh's Citizenship Contested.

Dreadful Outrages at Pottsville.

Horrid Murders in Massachusetts.

From Washington.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.—THE ADMINISTRATION  
AND THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.—THE BIG  
AND LITTLE ORGANS OUT OF TUNE, ETC.

WASHINGTON, June 19, 1854.

The last number of the *Union*, in alluding to our despatch of the 14th, giving a synopsis of the bill which the Committee of Ways and Means have directed their chairman to report for a modification of the tariff, says:—

"The attempt of the Washington correspondent of the *Union* to place the Committee of Ways and Means in a hostile attitude to the administration is apparent enough. We speak of what we know when we say that this effort must fall far short of its object; for the Committee of Ways and Means are on the best of terms with the administration of President Pierce, including the Treasury Department, and any effort to produce a different feeling will result in extreme failure and defeat."

It is evident that our despatch contains some unpleasant truths, or the organ of the administration would not have been so ready to imagine we desired to place the committee in a hostile attitude to its patrons, then to turn prophet, and assure the public our "effort" would result in "extreme failure and defeat." What we said was—

"It was evident in the discussions in the committee that the administration had shifted ground, and we declared that no action should be taken, so as to leave an accumulated surplus in the treasury; but some of the members of the committee were determined that the administration should stand square up to their own recommendations, and that the matter should be presented to the House, so that the country would be able to judge what the result would be."

Mr. Guthrie harped upon in his report. It is believed the chairman of the committee (Mr. Houston) is sincere, and that he will not play second hand to the other end of the avenue. Our opinion, that the bill stands a chance of passing this session, its introduction will probably kick up a very pretty excitement.

The *Union* declares it is "what it knows." When it asserts that the committee are on the best of terms with the administration, including the treasury, this may or may not be true, but we assert what we know when we state that our information is of the highest character; that gentlemen in the Committee of Ways and Means, who, from their personal relations to the administration, are regarded not only by the committee, but by the House, as the personal organs of the government and of the Treasury Department, throw cold water upon every occasion upon the effort to decide upon any measure for a reduction of the tariff at this time. We have a high respect for these gentlemen, and do not desire to be compelled to name them; but if the organ continues to contradict our statements, then, specifically made, we will give the names, not only of these gentlemen, but also of other facts which will prove beyond all doubt that Mr. Houston's honest determination to do his duty as chairman of the committee has caused him to be regarded with anything but antipathy by certain quarters. The evading organ of the administration has already attempted to depreciate Mr. Houston's services in connection with the bill, and we have seen no attempt made by the *Union* to notice and correct the injustice.

When the bill is reported, it will be seen whether the friends of the administration will rally to its support and press its consideration.

Without striving to be understood in any way as endorsing the merits of the bill, we reiterate, that but for the determined exertions of Mr. Houston and some other members, the subject would have been allowed to slumber in committee; and while the Secretary of the Treasury would have received the credit of being exceedingly anxious to lower the tariff, the committee would have been responsible for its inattention to the room beyond the Treasury Department. Meantime the surplus revenue would continue to increase, notwithstanding the apparent exertions of the administration.

If the committee are enabled to report, then all this humping will be knocked in the head; for it will then be demonstrated that the administration is not desirous, at this time, of encompassing any measure which will reduce the revenue.

We think, under all the circumstances, it would be unwise and impolitic in the extreme, at this juncture, to adopt any modification of the tariff. Whilst a European war is raging, and our relations with Spain and Mexico are in an unsettled condition, it is no time to experiment upon the revenue. But we desire there should be no misconception in the matter. Let it be known that the administration has shifted ground, and are not now desirous of carrying out Mr. Guthrie's recommendations, and at the commencement of the session. And let it also be understood that Mr. Houston's determination to hold the administration responsible for this failure to effect a reduction of the tariff has created a feeling towards him which is anything but friendly.

INDIAN TREATY RATIFIED.—THE AMENDMENT OF  
CONGRESS.—THE NAVY BILL.

The Senate today in executive session ratified a Minnesota Indian treaty regarding a transfer of land.

There is not the slightest indication the House will concur in the Senate resolution for a veto, notwithstanding the assertion of the associated press reporter. Standing the appearance, there is more probability that an adjournment *sine die* will take place about the middle of August.

Mr. Mallory will press his naval bill in the Senate tomorrow.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, June 19, 1854.

THE FLORIDA INDIANS.

The Chair presented a communication from the Interior Department relative to the removal of the Florida Indians.

Also one from the Navy Department in relation to the establishment of a Naval Academy, near the old fields of North Carolina. They were referred and ordered to be printed.

CLAIM FOR INVENTION OF A BATTERING RAM.

Mr. Seward, (free soil) of N. Y., presented the memorial of a citizen of New York, claiming to be the inventor of a battering ram of most tremendous force, thirteen of them being capable of defending the coast from Maine to Texas.

THE ARMY OFFER IN NEW YORK.

Mr. Fish, (whig) of New York, presented the memorial of the Council of New York, against the removal of the existing law relating to the assay office in that city.

Mr. Mason, (dem.) of Va., presented a bill for the relief of Capt. E. A. F. Lavettelle, of the navy—and the same was passed.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE POTOMAC.

Mr. Bright, (dem.) of Indiana, offered a resolution directing inquiry by the Committee on the District of Columbia, relative to selecting new sites for bridges on the Potomac river. Adopted.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

On motion of Mr. Mallory, (dem.) of Fla., the Senate took up the bill recognizing the Navy Department.

Mr. Mallory moved a substitute for the bill, which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Douglas, (dem.) of Ill., the bill recognizing the time for the annual meeting of Congress from the first Monday in December to the first Monday in October, was taken up.

THE TARIFF INDEMNITY BILL.

taken up.

Mr. Seward said—Congress has passed a bill by which ten millions of acres of the public domain are granted to the several States with unquestioned equality, on condition that they shall accept the same and sell the lands at not less than one dollar per acre, and use the proceeds for the maintenance of their internal improvements.

This bill is a compromise between a peculiar national resource, at a time when the treasury is overflowing, and the States. It is made at the suggestion, and it is not to be denied, that the States, through the wisdom of the United States, and the industry of the American people, have been able to secure a large amount of land for their own use, and to use it for the benefit of the country.

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THE TARIFF INDEMNITY BILL.

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